

**REMARKS**

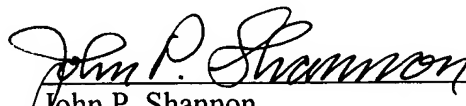
The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple claim dependency.

An early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0562.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-27-06

  
John P. Shannon  
Registration No. 29,276

**Merek, Blackmon & Voorhees, LLC**  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

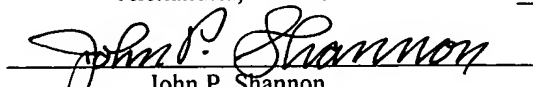
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 2-27-06.

  
John P. Shannon